

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ITEMS FOR MAY 11 ECONADS MEETING

REFS: NATO 4289, NATO 4502

1. HAVE REVIEWED DRAFT OF NATO STATEMENT ON CSCE BASKET II IMPLEMENTATION AND HAVE FOUND IT TO BE ACCURATE AND BALANCED. ONE SMALL NOTE WHICH MIGHT BE ADDED IS ABILITY OF WESTERN BUSINESSMEN IN POLAND SINCE APRIL 1978 TO CONVERT HARD CURRENCY INTO ZLOTY AT TOURIST RATE OF EXCHANGE RATHER THAN TO SUBSTANTIALLY LESS FAVORABLE "OFFICIAL" OR BASIC RATE. INABILITY TO USE THE TOURIST RATE HAD BEEN A CONTINUING COMPLAINT FROM RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT BUSINESSMEN IN POLAND.

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2. REGARDING POSSIBLE THEMES FOR NATO COLLOQUIUM WISH TO PUT FORTH FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS:

I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE USSR (SUPPORTED BY OER)- THIS MIGHT INCLUDE QUESTIONS OF DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, LABOR MOBILITY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT. SPECIAL EMPHASIS MIGHT BE GIVEN TO THE CENTRAL ASIAN

REPUBLICS WHICH WILL PROVIDE BULK OF GROWTH IN
SOVIET LABOR FORCE DURING YEARS TO COME BUT WHOSE

INHABITANTS HAVE DEMONSTRATED PRONOUNCED RELUC-
TANCE TO ACCEPT WORK ELSEWHERE IN THE USSR.

II. SOVIET INTERNATIONAL TRADE STRATEGY (SUPPORTED
BY BEWT/COMMERCE) -
TO INCLUDE (A) SOVIET ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND
EXPORT PLANS, (B) CURRENT AND FUTURE SOVIET
EXPORT CAPABILITIES IN MANUFACTURED GOODS AND
(C) THE IMPORTANCE AND IMPLICATIONS OF COMPENSA-
TION ARRANGEMENTS IN EAST-WEST TRADE.
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